

CLAIMS

1. A method of playing a card game with one or more decks of playing cards, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) dealing at least one hand of two cards to a player and a card to a dealer;
- (b) forming a side wager hand, including said at least one hand of two cards dealt to said player and said card dealt to said dealer;
- (c) resolving said side wager hand based on a numerical total of said side wager hand; and
- (d) continuing with a Blackjack game.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the one or more decks of playing cards comprises Aces, each having a value of eleven (11), face cards, each having a value of ten (10), and numerical cards having face value, and wherein step (a) comprises dealing only one hand of two cards to the player.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein step (c) is practiced by declaring the side wager hand a winner if the numerical total of the side wager hand is a value of H or higher.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein H is thirty (30).

5. A method according to claim 2, wherein step (c) is practiced by resolving said side wager hand based on a numerical total of said side wager hand and a Poker rank of said side wager hand.

6. A method according to claim 5, further comprising, prior to step (a), the step of receiving at least a side wager from said player.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein step (c) is practiced by paying a payout based on said side wager in increasing amounts according to hand ranks as follows:

<u>Total</u>	<u>Poker</u>
30	suited
30	sequential
30	suited and sequential
30	suited three of a kind

31	suited
31	sequential
31	suited and sequential
32	suited
33	suited.

8. A method according to claim 6, wherein step (c) is practiced by paying a payout based on said side wager in increasing amounts according to hand ranks as follows:

<u>Total</u>	<u>Poker</u>
30	
31	
32	
30	suited
30	sequential
30	suited and sequential
30	suited three of a kind
31	suited
31	sequential
31	suited and sequential
32	suited
33	suited.

9. A method according to claim 2, wherein step (c) is practiced by declaring the side wager hand a winner if the numerical total of the side wager hand is either (i) a value of H or higher or (ii) a value of L or lower.

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein H is thirty (30), and wherein L is fifteen (15).

11. A method according to claim 1, wherein the one or more decks of playing cards comprises Aces, each having a value of either one (1) or eleven (11), face cards, each having a value of ten (10), and numerical cards having face value, and wherein step (a) comprises dealing only one hand of two cards to the player.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein step (c) is practiced by declaring the side wager hand a winner if the numerical total of the side wager hand is either (i) a value of H or higher or (ii) a value of L or lower.

13. A method according to claim 1, wherein the one or more decks of playing cards comprises Aces, each having a value of one (1), face cards, each having a value of ten (10), and numerical cards having face value, and wherein step (a) comprises dealing only one hand of two cards to the player.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein step (c) is practiced by declaring the side wager hand a winner if the numerical total of the side wager hand is either (i) a value of H or higher or (ii) a value of L or lower.

15. A method according to claim 1, wherein step (c) is practiced by declaring the side wager hand a winner if the numerical total of the side wager hand exceeds a predetermined amount.

16. A method according to claim 1, wherein step (c) is practiced by declaring the side wager hand a winner if the numerical total of the side wager hand is less than a predetermined amount.

17. A method according to claim 1, wherein step (c) is practiced by declaring the side wager hand a winner if the numerical total of the side wager hand either exceeds a predetermined amount or is less than a predetermined amount.

18. A method according to claim 1, wherein step (c) is practiced by resolving said side wager hand based on a numerical total and a Poker rank of said side wager hand.

19. A method according to claim 1, further comprising, prior to step (a), the step of receiving at least a side wager from said player, wherein step (c) is practiced by paying a payout for a winning side wager hand based on said side wager.

20. A method according to claim 1, wherein step (a) is practiced by dealing two hands of two cards to the player, and wherein step (b) is practiced by forming the side wager hand including said two hands of two cards dealt to said player and said card dealt to said dealer.

21. A method according to claim 20, wherein step (c) is practiced by resolving said side wager hand based on a numerical total and a Poker rank of said side wager hand.

22. A method of playing a Blackjack casino card game including a side wager without affecting the underlying Blackjack game, the method comprising:

- (a) receiving at least a side game wager from a player;
 - (b) dealing at least one hand of two cards to a player and a card to a dealer;
 - (c) forming a side wager hand, including said at least one hand of two cards dealt to said player and said card dealt to said dealer;
 - (d) resolving said side wager hand based on a numerical total of said side wager hand by paying a payout based on said side game wager when the numerical total exceeds a predetermined total, said payout increasing with increasing numerical totals;
- and

(d) continuing with the Blackjack game.

23. An apparatus for playing a card game, comprising:

- means for dealing at least one hand of two cards to a player and a card to a dealer;
- means for forming a side wager hand, including said at least one hand of two cards dealt to said player and said card dealt to said dealer;
- means for resolving said side wager hand based on a numerical total of said side wager hand; and
- means for continuing with a Blackjack game.